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TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION LABEL VICTORIA

THE TIMES, 34, BROAD STREET, VICTORIA

OFFICERS

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

HONORARY PRESIDENT:

Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, K.C.M.G., P.C., K.C., Prime Minister of Canada.

PRESIDENT:

Mr. John Oliver, M.P.P.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Dr. O. M. Jones, Victoria; Mr. J. H. McDonald, Rossland.

TREASURER:

Mr. A. M. Pound, Vancouver.

SECRETARY:

Mr. J. C. McIntosh, Esquimalt.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Upper Country: Dr. McDonald, Vernon; Mr. J. D. Swanson, Kamloops. New Westminster District: Mr. Alex. Cruickshank, Matsqui; Mr. Robt. Jardine, New Westminster. Nanaimo: Mr. Alex. Forrester, Nanaimo. Vancouver: Messrs. W. W. B. McInnes and [illegible] H. Senkler, Vancouver. Victoria: Messrs. R. L. [illegible] and W. E. Ditchburn, Victoria. Vancouver Island: Mr. H. Pillar, Comox.

CONSTITUTION

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

AND

Resolutions Adopted by Convention of
British Columbia Liberals,

HELD AT

VANCOUVER, B. C., OCTOBER 1, 2, 3,
1907

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RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CONVENTION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBERALS, HELD AT VANCOUVER, B.C., 1st, 2nd, 3rd OCTOBER, 1907.

1.—That portions of the unoccupied Crown coal lands of the various coal fields of the Province be reserved by statute, thereby enabling state owned and operated coal mines to be established in the future if required in the public interest.

2.—That the action of the Liberals in the Local Legislature in the stand they have taken in favor of a thorough enquiry into the question of irrigation be endorsed with the view of adopting such legislation as may be necessary to secure the application of all available water to agricultural lands so as to secure the greatest possible benefit.

3.—That the federal (Liberal) government has already made an inquiry through a select committee of the House of Commons into the question of private operation of telegraphs and telephones and are in possession of important information which would indicate the wisdom of the government owning and operating such public utilities, therefore this convention of the Liberal Party of British Columbia declares in favor of the public ownership and operation of those chartered under Dominion laws; and that until the public acquisition thereof the commercial telegraph systems of Canada should be brought under the jurisdiction of the Railway Commission.

4.—Whereas the passage by the Federal Parliament of an Act known as the "Lemieux Labor Act" has proved to be very beneficial in settling labor disputes throughout Canada, this convention endorses the principle contained in the Act and favor its extension as experience shows to be necessary.

5.—That the Legislature pass, and if disallowed, then by special session or sessions re-pass the "Natai Act" for the exclusion of undesired immigrants unless and until the highest Court in the realm declares such an Act beyond the jurisdiction of the Provincial Legislature, or until the Dominion has passed effective exclusive measures.

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6.—That as the opinion of British Columbia generally is against the immigration of Orientals, and as the Liberal Party of the Dominion has successfully excluded the Chinese, the Party should adopt an immediate policy which will accomplish the same object against all Orientals, and that in the opinion of this convention the Natal Act which has been effective in restricting Oriental immigration in other British countries should be passed as a federal enactment, and any existing treaty act which prevents the passage of the "Natal Act" shall be abrogated at the earliest possible date.

7.—That taxation of personal property by the Provincial Government within organized municipalities should be relegated to the municipalities.

8.—Agricultural Crown Lands to be disposed of to settlers, not to speculators. Surveys of such lands along railways and along such streams where settlement will quickly follow to be begun at once, and maps and full description of the surveyed lands be distributed.

9.—Whereas large areas of lands in the Province of British Columbia now owned by railway and other corporations and liable to taxation for years past, still remain untaxed through the refusal of the present Provincial Government to assess and tax same, whereby very large sums have been and are being lost to the Province, RESOLVED that all legal steps should be taken to make such corporations pay their just proportion of taxes to the Provincial Treasury.

10.—To provide one set of free text books in the public schools for each pupil and to print such text books wherever possible at the Government Printing Office in Victoria.

11.—That the Liberal Party in British Columbia is in favor of government inspection of all industries for sanitary purposes and the protection of the health and security of employees.

12.—RESOLVED, That the necessary encouragement and assistance be given by the Dominion Government to any well considered scheme for the connection of the railway system of Vancouver Island with one or more transcontinental lines of railways.

13.—That this convention is strongly in favor of both the Dominion and Provincial Governments using every reasonable effort to promote the settlement of our Province by a desirable class of white settlers.

14.—Whereas certain legislation has been enacted by the Local Legislature of British Columbia for the purpose of securing to a large number of settlers in the E. & N. Railway belt their underground as well as their surface rights, and whereas the highest Court of the Realm has decided that such legislation is constitutional, and whereas a number of settlers have secured their rights by virtue of such legislation, and whereas a number of settlers are unable to obtain their rights on account of not having made application therefor within the time limit fixed by the Statute, and whereas such failure to apply within the time fixed in no way detracts from the merits of their claim; therefore, RESOLVED that the provisions of the Statute should be extended so as to embrace the claims of those who would have been entitled had they made application within the time fixed by the Statute.

15.—That the Dominion Government be asked to operate the dredge, "King Edward," to its fullest capacity so as not only to improve the navigation of the Fraser River, but to prevent as far as possible the overflow of the low lands along the banks of the river.

16.—To establish a more business-like administration of the natural resources of the Province, thus enabling taxation on industry to be greatly reduced.

17.—To set aside forthwith a percentage of the public domain in aid of public and technical schools and higher education.

18.—That in the opinion of this convention the question of assistance to deserving poor is a question which should be dealt with by the Dominion Government, and we would urge the necessity for a Royal Commission next session to look into and report on the question of old age pension.

19.—This convention endorses the stand taken in the Legislature by the Liberal Opposition on the question of "Better Terms." It recognizes that as far back as 1887, when a Conservative Government was in power at Ottawa the question of Better Terms for the Provinces was

relegated by that Government to a conference of Provincial premiers. And whereas the conference of last year denied British Columbia that full measure of Better Terms to which we think we are entitled to, we deprecate the attempt now being made by the Premier of the Province to make a partizan question of Better Terms in face of the stand taken by the Liberal Opposition.

20.—That in view of the fact that a Canadian Commissi is to be appointed by the Federal Government to visit Japan and investigate the question of Asiatic immigration, RESOLVED that in the opinion of this convention this commission should consist of at least one member from British Columbia.

21.—Whereas the Hon. Richard McBride has publicly declared that he did not advise the Lieutenant-Governor to withhold assent to the Act of last session purporting to prohibit Oriental immigration, and in making such declaration in effect disavows ministerial responsibility;

And whereas Mr. McBride is still the chief adviser of the Lieutenant-Governor,

BE IT RESOLVED, That this convention condemns as utterly subversive of responsible government this flagrant violation of the first principle of the Constitution, which requires that the Chief Adviser of the Crown must assume responsibility for every executive act of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Premier of British Columbia cannot shield himself behind the Lieutenant-Governor and must assume full responsibility for the act of the representative of the Crown, or resign office, in which event the Lieutenant-Governor would be compelled to secure a first minister who would accept responsibility.

22.—That the thanks of this convention are due in the first place to Mr. J. A. Macdonald, M.P.P., and secondly to the members of the Organization Committee for the great care and labor bestowed upon the drafting of the several articles of the various constitutions.

23.—That this convention of the Liberals of British Columbia place on record their unqualified confidence in their great leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada, and J. A. Macdonald, M.P.P., leader of the Provincial Liberal Opposition.

CONSTITUTION

OF

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

Name.

1. This Association shall be known as "..... .....Liberal Association."

Officers.

2. The Officers of this Association shall consist of Honorary President, President, one, two or three Vice-Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, composed of the above named officers (other than the honorary officers) and .....other members.

Objects.

3. The objects of this Association are: To unite the Liberals of this district so that they may the better study and understand the politics of Canada and the platform of the Liberal Party.

Membership.

4. Every male person of the age of 18 years and upwards who is a British subject and who now is or hereafter may become a resident of.....Electoral District, may become a member of this Association by signing the membership roll and paying to the Secretary-Treasurer the sum of.....per year.

Election of Officers.

5. The officers of the Association shall be elected annually by ballot at the regular meeting to be held on the ..... in the month of .....in each year, or on such other day in the month of .....in any year as the

Executive Committee shall decide upon, and at such elections a majority vote shall prevail. In case of a vacancy occuring in any of the offices, notice shall be given by the Chairman at the next regular meeting, when nominations shall be made and an election held to fill such vacancy. In all elections for office, in the event of a tie between any of the candidates for office, the presiding officer shall have the casting vote. Any officer of this Association, other than honorary, absenting himself from two consecutive meetings of the Association shall have his office declared vacant unless such absence was caused by sickness or temporary absence from the district.

6. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association, to enforce a due observance of the Constitution and Rules of Order; to announce the result of all ballotings or other votes; to call special meetings, as provided in the Rules of Order, and to exercise a general care and superintendence over the affairs of the Association. He shall not vote unless there be a tie, when he shall have the casting vote, and he shall be, ex-officio, a member of all committees, and his attention is particularly requested to the necessity of looking after the voters' list.

7. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents (according to rank), or in their absence, a Chairman chosen by the meeting shall preside.

8. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Association. He shall also keep in the register of the Association a list of all members with their residences. He will also be required to furnish at each meeting for the guidance of the Chairmna, an order paper containing the regular routine of business and all unfinished matters arising out of past meetings. He shall also conduct all the correspondence of the Association and report thereon at each regular meeting, and take charge of all books and papers of the Association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to receive all moneys belonging to the Association, to keep a written account of all receipts and expenditures and to pay no sum without obtaining a written order from the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

10. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to report all matters upon which the action of the

Association may be particularly required; to recommend to the Association subjects for discussion, and the occasion for holding public meetings, and generally to employ such active measures for carrying out the objects of the Association as may be deemed advisable. They may appoint any sub-committee or sub-committees.

All accounts against the Association shall be submitted to and passed by the Executive Committee before being paid. They may report to a general meeting of the Association in case a meeting of the Executive Committee shall not have been called by the Chairman thereof, at which sub-committees could report prior to the regular meeting of the Association.

Meetings.

11. The regular meetings of the Association shall be held on ....., provided that the Executive Committee shall have power to call special meetings at any time.

12. The President, or on his refusal or in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, shall call a meeting of the Association at any time upon the requisition of five members of the Association.

Quorum.

13. At all meetings of the Association, ... members shall constitute a quorum.

14. ..... members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

15. In all debates and discussions each speaker shall be allowed the space of ten minutes, and shall not exceed that time without the consent of a majority of the members present. No person shall speak twice on same motion without the consent of the Chairman.

16. A candidate for membership must be duly proposed by a member in good standing at a regular meeting of the Association. The election of such nominee shall be decided at the same meeting, when a ballot may be demanded, and the votes of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be necessary to elect a candidate for membership.

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17. The privileges of membership may be denied to any member who has not paid to the Secretary-Treasurer all moneys due by him to the Association, and the name of any member whose fees are in arrears more than three months may be struck off the membership rolls by the Executive of the Association.

18. The Executive Committee shall have power from time to time to amend and make such further rules and bylaws for the government of the Association as they shall deem necessary, to be submitted to the next general meeting of the Association for approval, and no amendment shall become operative until so approved.

Order of Business.

(1) Reading and adopting Minutes.

(2) Communications.

(3) Nominations for membership.

(4) Election of members.

(5) Reports of Committees

(6) Election of Officers or of Delegates.

(7) Notices of Motion.

(8) General Business.

(9) Debate or program.

District Association.

19. This Association is subordinate to the Electoral District Liberal Association and shall be entitled to representation in the same in accordance with the Constitution of the said District Association and on compliance therewith.